

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 19 Mar 2024 until 23:59 on Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 19 Mar 2024 at 02:24 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for Tuesday. Low for Wednesday with large uncertainty in northern and western extent of any snow. High for strong winds on Thursday, but low for timing of rain clearing. High confidence for a change to colder showery conditions Friday and Saturday, but low for details.

Headline for Tuesday 19 Mar 2024: Rain and low cloud to start. Turning drier by the afternoon. Cold and windy.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 19 Mar 2024

Blizzards No Likelihood	Heavy persistent snow No Likelihood	Storm force winds No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	Severe chill effect Medium Likelihood	Poor visibility Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	Heavy persistent rain No Likelihood	Strong sunlight No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
					
Sleet	Light snow	Light snow	Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
60%	50%	30%	20%	20%	10%

Forecast for Tuesday 19 Mar 2024

Weather: Rain and southerly summit gales at first, soon turning to snow above munro level as winds turn westerly and ease slightly. Rain and snow turn to showers through the morning. Snow lowering to around 700m towards midday, but showers turning light and increasingly well scattered. Cloudy but mostly dry in the afternoon and evening, possibly some clearer spells after sunset.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20-30% in the morning, 60% in the afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Very poor visibility in rain and extensive cloud above 600m early hours and to start the day. Cloud bases gradually rising through the morning, often above the summits in the afternoon, but lowering to 1100m at times.

Forecast for Tuesday 19 Mar 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)				Wind Direction (blowing from)		
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	42/54 W	30/40 W	23/31 W	21/27 NW	9/12 NW	6/8 S	12/16 SE
900	38/46 W	26/33 W	20/26 W	17/22 W	7/10 NW	5/6 NW	9/12 SE
600	27/34 W	19/27 W	16/22 W	13/19 W	4/8 NW	4/5 NE	5/8 SE
300	13/27 SW	9/21 W	10/21 W	9/18 W	5/10 NW	3/5 NE	2/6 E
Glen	7/27 W	6/22 W	7/22 W	5/16 W	4/11 NW	2/5 N	2/5 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-0/-10	-1/-9	-2/-9	-1/-8	-2/-7	-3/-6	-3/-9
900	3/-5	3/-4	2/-4	2/-3	1/-2	0/-2	0/-4
600	5/-1	5/0	5/0	5/1	4/2	3/1	2/-0
300	8/4	8/5	8/5	8/5	6/5	4/3	4/3
Glen	8/5	8/6	10/7	10/8	7/6	5/4	3/3
Freezing Level*	1300m	1200m	900m	800m	800m	700m	800m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist’s View

Note the lowering freezing levels with remaining snow patches likely to become hard and icy.

Forecast for Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Weather: Low cloud with a few light snow flurries, rain below 700m through the early hours. A chance of more persistent snow, rain below 700m, spreading north from dawn, most likely across the Cairngorms, before gradually clearing to the east later in the day. Western ranges towards Ben Alder and Creag Meagaidh more likely to be dry with some sunny spells. Dry and overcast in the evening, winds increasing overnight.

Maximum wind: Northerly becoming Westerly 5 to 10 mph. Becoming south or southwest 20 gusting 30 mph late evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30% in the east, 70% in the west.

Low cloud and visibility: Generally very good visibility across western ranges once any early morning cloud above 600m lifts, with summits cloud free. A chance that low cloud persists across the Cairngorms for much of the day.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 Celsius, rising to 8 Celsius.
 At 800m: Zero Celsius, rising to plus 3 Celsius, falling to zero Celsius in the evening.
 Freezing level: Around 800-900m, perhaps rising to 1100m in the afternoon.